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### AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

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#### In the Claims

- (currently amended) A method of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a 1. patient, the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an agent which reduces sympathetic nervous system activity.
- (currently amended) A The method according to Claim 1 wherein the agent which 2. reduces sympathetic nervous system activity is any one or more of the following compounds selected from the group consisting of: a compound which inhibits the effect of aldosterone such as an aldosterone antagonist; a chymase inhibitor; a cathepsin inhibitor, a \beta receptor blocker; an imidazoline receptor antagonist; a centrally acting α receptor antagonist; a peripherally acting α receptor antagonist; a ganglion blocking agent; a drug-that has an effect on cardiovascular reflexes and thereby recince SNS activity such as an opiate; scopolamine; endothelin receptor antagonist; a xanthine oxidase inhibitor; and erythropoietin.
- 3. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 1 2 of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a wherein the compound which inhibits the effect of aldosterone, such as is an aldosterone antagonist.
- (currently amended) A The method according to Claim 3 wherein the aldosterone antagonist is selected from the group consisting of compound which inhibits the effect of aldosterone-is-any-one-of-spironolactone, testolactone, RU40555, RU26752, canrenoatc, eplerenone, 3-(17β-hydroxy-3-oxoandrosta-1,4,6,11-tetraen-17α-yl) propionic acid γ lactone, 3-10 ICI 102 KCH02DraftResponsetoOfficeAction(11\_04)

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(9-α-fluoro-17β-hydroxy-3-oxo-androsta-4-cn-17α-yl) propionic acid  $\gamma$  lactone, dihydrospirorenone, spirorenone, 15,16-methylene derivatives of spironolactone, mespirenone and SC9420.

- 5. (withdrawn) A method of claim 1 of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a chymase inhibitor.
- 6. (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 5 wherein the chymase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting any one of alendronate, aprotinin and tissue inhibitors of matrix metalloproteinases.
- 7. (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 of treating-weight loss due to underlying clisease in a patient-the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a cathepsin inhibitor.
- 8. (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) Λ method according to Claim 7 wherein the cathepsin B inhibitor is any one selected from the group consisting of an epweysuscinyl peptide such as CA-074 or E64-c, stefin A and cystatin C.
- 9. (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 of treating weight kess due-to-underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a β receptor blocker.
- 10. (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 9 wherein the β receptor blocker is any one selected from the group consisting of acebutolol, alprenolol, (CH02DraftResponsetoOfficeAction(H\_04))

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atenolol, betaxolol, bisoprolol, carteolol, celiprolol, esmolol, labetolol, lavobunolol, metipranolol, metoprolol, nadolol, oxprenolol, penbutolol, pindolol, propanolol, sotalol, timolol, nebivolol, carvedilol and bucindolol.

- 11. (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method of claim I of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient-the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an imidazoline receptor antagonist.
- 12. (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 11 wherein the imidazoline receptor antagonist is any one selected from the group consisting of moxonidine, rilmenidine, pentamidine and α-methyl dopa.
- 13. (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 of treating weight loss due to underlying discuse in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an imidazoline receptor antagonist.
- 14. (withdrawn) Λ method according to Claim 13 wherein the centrally acting α receptor agonist is clonidine.
- 15. (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a peripherally acting α receptor antagonist.
- 16. (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 15 wherein the peripherally acting α receptor antagonist is any one selected from the group consisting of doxazosin, prazosin, terazosin and ipsapirone.

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- 17. (withdrawn) A method of claim 1 of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a ganglion blocking agent.
- 18. (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 17 wherein the ganglion blocking agent is any one selected from the group consisting of azamethonium, dicolinium, hexamethonium, mecamylamine, pentamethonium, pentolinium, trimetaphan, benzohexonium, hexafluorenium, cypenam, trimethaphan canfosulfonate, tetraethylammonium bromide and synapleg.
- 19. (currently amended) A The method of claim 1 of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an offective amount of a wherein the drug reduces sympathetic nervous system activity drug that has an effect on by affecting cardiovascular reflexes and thereby reduces SNS activity.
- 20. (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an opiate.
- 21. (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 20 wherein the opiate is env one selected from the group consisting of dihydrocodeine, morphine, diamorphine and buprenorphine.

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- (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 of treating weight 22. loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of scopolamine.
- (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 of treating weight 23. loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an endothelin receptor antagonist.
- (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 23 wherein 24. the ET-1 receptor antagonist is any one selected from the group consisting of butenolide, BQ123, BQ-788, A-216546, ABT-627, JRL3461, LU135252, S-0139, T-0201, PD 142,893, PD 164333, RO 61-1790, PD 156,707, SB 209670, IRL 1038 and WS-7338 B.
- (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 of treating weight 25. loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a xanthine oxidase inhibitor.
- (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method according to Claim 25 wherein 26. the xanthine oxidase inhibitor is any one selected from the group consisting of allopurinol, 7,8dihydroneopterin, 5,6,7,8-tetrahydrobiopterin, leukopterin, xanthopterin, neopterin, biopterin, 4amino-6-hydroxypyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine (AHPP) and oxypurinol.
- (withdrawn on petition; currently amended) A method of claim 1 of treating-weight 27. loss due to underlying disease in a patient the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of erythropoietin.

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- (cancelled) A method of treating weight loss due to underlying disease in a patient the 28. method comprising electrically stimulating the patient's muscles.
- (currently amended) A The method according to claim 1 wherein the underlying disease 29. is any one selected from the group consisting of AIDS, liver cirrhosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with or without emphysema, chronic renal failure, chronic infections, cancer, heart disease including hypertension and chronic heart failure.
- 30. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 1 wherein the patient has idiopathic cachexia.
- (currently amended) -A The method according to claim 1 wherein the underlying disease 31. is chronic heart failure and the patient has cardiac cachexia.

Claims 32-47. (cancelled)